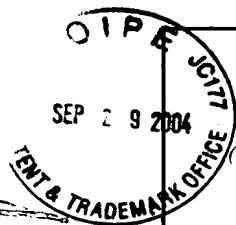


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TRANSMITTAL FORM (to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)		Application Number	10/781,702
		Filing Date	February 20, 2004
		First Named Inventor	Hirochika IYODA
		Group Art Unit	3612
		Examiner Name	To Be Assigned
Total Number of Pages in This Submission	3	Attorney Docket Number	742425-28

ENCLOSURES (check all that apply)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached <input type="checkbox"/> Amendment / Reply <input type="checkbox"/> After Final <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request <input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/Incomplete Application <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53	<input type="checkbox"/> Assignment Papers (for an Application) <input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Declaration and Power of Attorney <input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers <input type="checkbox"/> Petition <input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address <input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund <input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) _____	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to Group <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Group (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) <input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information <input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter <input type="checkbox"/> Application Data Sheet <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Corrected Filing Receipt with Enclosures <input type="checkbox"/> A self-addressed prepaid postcard for acknowledging receipt <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below): PTO Form-1449 with four (4) references European Search Report
Remarks	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees required or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 19-2380 for the above identified docket number.	

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT	
Firm or Individual name	Donald R. Studebaker, Registration No. 32,815 Nixon Peabody LLP 401 9 th Street, N.W. Suite 900 Washington, D.C. 20004-2128
Signature	
Date	September 29, 2004

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION [37 CFR 1.8(a)]	
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being:	
<input type="checkbox"/> deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop _____, Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450	
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Date	Signature
	Typed or printed name



Application No. 10/781,702
Docket No. 742425-28

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:)	
)	Examiner: To Be Assigned
Hirochika IYODA et al.)	
)	Group Art Unit: 3612
Serial No. 10/781,702)	
)	Confirmation No. 3666
Filed: February 20, 2004)	
)	Date: September 29, 2004
For: REAR BUMPER STRUCTURE)	
FOR VEHICLE)	

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
220 20th Street, South
Customer Window, Mail Stop Patent Applications
Crystal Plaza Two, Lobby, Room 1B03
Arlington, Virginia 22202

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure as set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.56, Applicants hereby submit the following information in conformance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98. In accordance with the PTO notice dated July 11, 2003, waiving the requirement under 37 CFR 1.98 (a)(2)(i) for submitting copies of each cited U.S. Patent, for all U.S. national patent applications filed after June 30, 2003, no copies of U.S. Patents are enclosed. However, copies of foreign patents and non-patent literature are submitted under 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2).

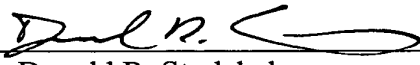
The documents are being submitted within three (3) months of the filing of this application or entry into the national stage of this application, or before the first Office Action on the merits, whichever is later, therefore no fee or certification is required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b).

The undersigned certifies that either each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in connection with a counterpart foreign application not more than three (3) months prior to the filing of this statement.

It is requested that the accompanying PTO-1449 be considered and made of record in the above-identified application. To assist the Examiner, the documents are listed on the attached form PTO-1449. It is respectfully requested that an Examiner-initialed copy of this form be returned to the undersigned.

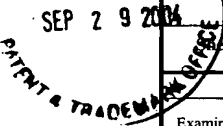
The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees connected with this filing which may be required now, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-2380 (742425-28).

Respectfully submitted,

By: 
Donald R. Studebaker
Registration No. 32,815

NIXON PEABODY LLP
Suite 900
401 9th Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20004-2128

Telephone: (202) 585-8000



Substitute for form 1449A/PTO				Complete if Known					
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (use as many sheets as necessary)				Application Number		10/781,702			
				Filing Date		February 20, 2004			
				First Named Inventor		Hirochika IYODA			
				Art Unit		3612			
				Examiner Name		To Be Assigned			
Attorney Docket Number		742425-28							
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS									
Examiner Initials ⁵	Cite No. ¹	U.S. Patent Document Number - Kind Code ² (if known)		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document		Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS									
Examiner Initials ⁵	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document Country Code ³ Number ⁴ Kind Code ² (if known)		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document		Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		GB-987,996		March 31, 1965		RENAULT			Full
		JP-58-089418		May 27, 1983		MIZUMA			Abstract
		EP-1-162-116-A2		December 12, 2001		GIUGIARO			Full
		JP-2003-104141		April 9, 2003		SATO			Abstract
OTHER PRIOR ART - NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS									
Examiner Initials ⁵	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.							T ²
		European Search Report for Application No. EP-04-00-6883, dated July 26, 2004							
Examiner Signature					Date Considered				

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.